In the Claims:

In the Amended Claims of the International Preliminary Examination Report (attached) dated July 19, 2001, please amend the Claims to read as follows (a copy of the amended claims showing the additions and deletions appears at the end for the Examiner's convenience):

A1

3. The compound according to claim 1, wherein the groups R^3 each represent methyl and group R^4 represents methoxy.

4. The compound according to claim 1, wherein group R^1 represents aminoacyl and group R^2 represents (C_1-C_4)acyl.

A2

6. The compound according to claim 1, wherein group R^1 represents $-NH_2$ and group R^2 represents glutamidyl or 2-aminopropionamidyl.

7. The compound according to claim 1, wherein the toxin is selected from the group consisting of mycrocystin and nodularin congeners.

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A2 cont'd

8. The compound according to claim 1 which is a polyclonal, monoclonal or recombinant antibody or a functionally active derivative or fragment thereof.

9. A method for the preparation of the compound according to claim 1 comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 1,

(b) coupling the compound of step (a) to a carrier.

A3

13. The method according to claim 9 which further comprises the steps of

(c) immunizing an animal with the conjugate obtained in step (b), and

(d) isolating the animal's blood, blood serum and/or spleenocytes.

14. A diagnostic kit containing the compound according to claim 1.

15. An affinity matrix containing the compound according to claim 1 coupled to a polymeric resin.

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16. Use of the compound according to claim 1 for the detection of a compound containing the group represented by the formula (I).

A3 cont'd

17. A method for concentrating a compound containing the group represented by the formula (I) from a fluid or for substantially decreasing the amount of a compound containing the group represented by the formula (I) in a fluid comprising the steps of

(a) preparing the compound according to claim 1,

(b) coupling the compound obtained in step (a) to a polymeric matrix, and

(c) contacting the fluid with the polymeric matrix obtained in step (b).

Please add the following new claims 19-28:

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19. The compound according to claim 2, wherein:

A4

the groups R^3 each represent methyl and group R^4 represents methoxy;

group R^1 represents aminoacyl and group R^2 represents (C_1-C_4)acyl;

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group R^1 represents glycyl or D-alanyl and group R^2 represents acetyl;

group R^1 represents $-NH_2$ and group R^2 represents glutamidyl or 2-aminopropionamidyl;

the toxin is selected from the group consisting of mycrocystin and nodularin congeners.

20. The compound according to claim 19 which is a polyclonal, monoclonal or recombinant antibody or a functionally active derivative or fragment thereof.

21. A method for the preparation of the compound according to claim 19 comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 19,

(b) coupling the compound of step (a) to a carrier;

and wherein:

the carrier is a polymeric substance;

the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol, polypeptides, proteins, polysaccharides or plastic supports;

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A4 contd

the protein carrier is selected from bovine serum albumin, ovalbumin, cationised bovine serum albumin or horseradish peroxidase.

22. A method for the preparation of the compound according to claim 20 comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 19,

(b) coupling the compound of step (a) to a carrier;

and wherein:

the carrier is a polymeric substance;

the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol, polypeptides, proteins, polysaccharides or plastic supports;

the protein carrier is selected from bovine serum albumin, ovalbumin, cationised bovine serum albumin or horseradish peroxidase.

23. The method according to claim 21 which further comprises the steps of

(c) immunizing an animal with the conjugate obtained in step (b), and

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A4 cont'd

(d) isolating the animal's blood, blood serum and/or spleenocytes.

24. The method according to claim 22 which further comprises the steps of

(c) immunizing an animal with the conjugate obtained in step (b), and

(d) isolating the animal's blood, blood serum and/or spleenocytes.

25. A diagnostic kit containing the compound according to claim 19.

26. An affinity matrix containing the compound according to claim 19 coupled to a polymeric resin.

27. Use of the compound according to claim 19 for the detection of a compound containing the group represented by the formula (I).

28. A method for concentrating a compound containing the group represented by the formula (I) from a fluid or for substantially decreasing the amount of a compound containing

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A4 cont'd

the group represented by the formula (I) in a fluid comprising the steps of

(a) preparing the compound according to claim 19,

(b) coupling the compound obtained in step (a) to a polymeric matrix, and

(c) contacting the fluid with the polymeric matrix obtained in step (b);

and wherein the fluid is hemodialysis water, drinking water or water derived from rivers, lakes and oceans.

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